



COUNCILMEMBER SHERRI S. LIGHTNER

FIRST DISTRICT
CITY OF SAN DIEGO

January 20, 2010

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer
Chairman of U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: State of Nation's Drinking Water Quality

Dear Senator Boxer,

Recent reports in both *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* have highlighted the challenges municipalities, including San Diego, face in ensuring the safety of the water they provide. In particular, it appears that while our water might be legal, it may not be healthy. No contaminant has been added to the Environmental Protection Agency's regulatory scheme since 2000. In the face of emerging research on pharmaceuticals in our water, and the overwhelming amount of incomplete research assessing the health risks of tens of thousands of other chemicals, this inaction is potentially dangerous.

During this next year, I would appreciate your leadership in helping safeguard our water. The EPA needs your assistance to help fund its work on the recently updated Contaminant Candidate List, including bringing perchlorate and nitrosamines under the agency's regulatory umbrella.

Expanding our drinking water protection needs to be one of our highest priorities. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can help in any way.

Sincerely,

Sherri S. Lightner
Councilmember, First District
City of San Diego